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AGRICULTURAL.

LETTER

From Dr D. Stebbins, of Northampton, Mass., to the Congressional Committee on Agriculture.

Northampton, County of Hampshire, Mass.
February 10, 1838.

I have received a communication from the Committee on Agriculture, dated Washington City, January 30, 1838, for answers to several interrogatories about the culture of the mulberry and sugar-beet. The committee must be aware that the silk business of America is but in its infancy; yet, knowledge of the subject is constantly on the increase. Improvements are made from year to year, not only in the culture of the mulberry, but in the manufacture of the article of silk. Let it not, therefore, be thought wonderful, if it should be found necessary hereafter, to abandon our present opinion, practice of culture, and machinery used in the manufacture, for a better mode and more simple machinery, and so cheap as to take place of the domestic wheel, reel and loom. If, in either respect, any improvement can be made, Yankee perseverance and ingenuity will discover it.

The committee will please accept of the aid of Edward Church, Esq., of this place, who has long resided in France; and, while there, became very much interested in the subject of sugar from the beet; I presume that he possesses as much information on that subject, or even more, than almost any person in the United States, and have engaged him to reply to the subject of beet-sugar.

On the subject, or respecting the culture of the mulberry, it would afford me great pleasure to present the committee with an *infallible* mode of treatment, which would be applicable to every variety of climate, and the inconstancy of the weather for several years past. But so variable have been the seasons, that the successful mode of culture and protection of the tree during one year, has disappointed the cultivator the next year.

1. In reply to the first question: I began the examination of the mulberry business several years since; but did not commence the cultivation of the Multicaulis until 1833, and ever since have carefully watched the progress.

2. Respecting *soil, situation* and *exposure*: I have found that our *poor, light, dry*, and even gravelly soil, is better adapted to the culture of the Multicaulis, than our richest lands. The *location* or *situation* should be high, or elevated above the danger of water collecting about the roots.

On such soils, although the trees would not attain the height of trees grown on rich land, yet the foliage would be more numerous; and the chance of having the trees ripen, or form hard wood for cuttings, and sustaining our winters, would be enhanced.

3. Respecting the *most valuable mulberry* for cultivation; its *capability* to endure the *cold* and *frost*; the *quantity* and *quality* of foliage; *labor* of culture, and *stripping*. These questions will be answered with reference to this climate; and will include not only my own observation and experience, but the experience of others of my acquaintance, in whose opinion I have the utmost confidence.

I commenced with the *Italian* white mulberry, and have used also the *black* and *red* mulberry; each of which requires good soil, no matter how rich. I found that, although the worms would feed well on these, yet they were equally fond of the Multicaulis, which was selected for its large leaf, nutritious quality, and tender fibre, which the worms can eat, while the fibres or ribs of the white mulberry are so ligneous as not to be edible. Eighty pounds of Multicaulis foliage are considered equal to one hundred pounds of the Italian white, for feeding worms.

The tree or shrub commonly known as the Multicaulis, was found in a garden in *Manilla*, cultivated as a tree of ornament; and, to distinguish this from all other mulberries, is now called the *Manilla multicaulis*, and particularly to distinguish it from *another tree*, more deserving of *multicaulis*, on account of its capacity to produce more numerous stalks and branches.

Although the *Manilla multicaulis* has a very large leaf, grows rapidly, and the silk-worm is fond of it; yet, in consequence of its rapid growth, the stalks are often so green and tender, that, when overtaken by early frost, they are liable to be injured, before the wood had been sufficiently formed to endure cold and frost.

Nevertheless, the *Manilla* multicaulis is so valuable a tree, that experienced cultivators have told me that, if it should become necessary to take them up every autumn, protect them during winter, and reset every spring, it would be much better than to cultivate the white mulberry; and that the culture of an acre of mulberry would require no more labor and expense than that required for an acre of Indian corn.

But there is another mulberry alluded to—the *Canton* multicaulis—so called from the place of its derivation, being the product of seed which the *Canton mission* were requested to procure, being considered the very best and most approved mulberry used by the Chinese; and is believed to be the first genuine seed ever imported into this or any other country. It was obtained under very favorable circumstances, such as have not often occurred; and the same mission have recently forwarded more seed for next spring's use.

That the *Canton* multicaulis is the true kind used by the Chinese, is made evident from a set of historical paintings from China, and from the seed growing at the foot of the stalk, different from other mulberries.

From the experience I have had, I concur in opinion with those who have cultivated the several kinds of mulberry, that the *Canton* multicaulis is deserving of the first consideration, and to be preferred to all others; not only on account of its equal capability of enduring cold and frost, but from the number, quality, and size of the leaf.—Although not not so large as the Manilla leaf, yet a leaf of the same size, is considered much heavier than the Manilla—some say double the weight.

I have cocoons in possession, made by worms which were fed exclusively on the foliage of the white mulberry; and another parcel fed exclusively upon the foliage of the *Canton*. The latter have a lustre and brilliancy far surpassing the former; and the difference is nearly as great as between the Merino and wool of native sheep.

It is the opinion of horticulturists and those best acquainted with the propagation of trees or plants from seeds, that trees from seed withstand the severity of climate better than trees propagated by any other mode.

Another circumstance occurred last autumn, in favor of the *Canton*: I had the *Canton* and *Manilla* trees, and another kind, called the *Asiatic* seedling, growing side-by-side in my garden, each having the same exposure to an untimely and severe frost, when the *Manilla* was much injured, the *Canton* and *Asiatic* escaped unhurt; and two other kinds, called the Chinese and Smyrna, were uninjured.

These seedlings, we hope, will be a most valuable acquisition to the list of mulberries adapted to the feeding of worms, and enduring the cold and frost; nevertheless, great caution is necessary in the use of imported seed; for instance, seed grown upon the Multicaulis tree, will not produce a plant like the original tree; at least, it has so proved under my observation. The leaf is different in shape, and not one-fourth so large as the original; neither do the seeds produce trees which furnish a uniform leaf in shape or size. There is often deception in seed procured at foreign seed-stores; sometimes the vitality of the seed is destroyed, or otherwise injured by neglect. For these and other reasons which might be offered, purchasers of seed have been disappointed, and the mulberry cause injured; because they have expected too much, or that, by the seed of a certain *name*, they should obtain the genuine tree.—The peach, apple, and some other trees, from seed or stone fruit, when planted, produce a great variety; perhaps not one seed in a thousand shall produce a tree in all respects like the original. It is advisable to have no dependence on the seed, but to procure trees which have developed the true character.

Having mentioned the *Canton* mulberry as first on the list, yet some, who do not know the Canton, would have the Manilla stand at the head of the list of the most valuable mulberries. The *Asiatic* and *Chinese* may be the next best, on account of their capability of enduring cold and frost; the leaf of which, in shape, resembles the *Canton*, but not so large; each of which, however, on account of the numerous buds on the stalks, may produce as much weight of foliage, and of as good quality, as the Manilla multicaulis of the same age. But should the Manilla multicaulis utterly fail of acclimation in this latitude, resort may be had to the *Canton*, *Asiatic*, *Chinese*, and some others which have been propagated from

the seed, and give fair promise of adaptation to this climate.

In a more favored clime, the last year, these trees attained a much greater height, and larger leaf, than in this place.

4. Respecting the *best mode* of cultivation, *stripping*, *value*, *expense* and *profit*, of an acre of mulberry, I shall not only communicate my own experience, but that of the most skilful cultivators in this region.

In *this climate*, the culture, setting out mulberry roots, or cuttings, commences at the usual time of making our gardens, after the spring frosts, and when the earth has been suitably warmed by the sun—last of April or beginning of May; and soon as the foliage has grown to the size of an apple-leaf, or the full size of the white mulberry leaf, (about the 15th or 20th of June,) the eggs may be brought out for hatching; and, if they can be kept back, so as to be hatched at different times, as the foliage multiplies, the cultivator will have the advantage of several crops in succession from the same lot of eggs—a much better way than to breed *in-and-in*, as it is called. Eggs may be preserved during winter in a cool place; freezing does not injure them; but before spring, they should be secured in glass bottles, corked tight, to exclude the external air, and each bottle of eggs put into an ice-house, placed on a *cake* of *ice*; if set upon a shelf, they would hatch, even in an ice-house. Eggs thus secured, may be kept back, save much labor, time, and expense. As one class of worms are advanced, another can succeed them on the same shelves or hurdles. In this way, the same number of trees would feed double the usual quantity of worms.

In gathering the foliage, the buds must not be injured, nor the extreme ends of the limbs deprived of the leaves, leaving two or three leaves at the end untouched; commencing on one side of the field, and when once gone over, there will be a new crop of leaves ready at the place of beginning; and thus the foliage may be gathered several times from the same shrub or tree, whether the product of a root or cutting. I had roots and cuttings set out last spring, the foliage of which was gathered three or four times from the same trees, without injury; indeed, the trees apparently grow better by having the leaves taken off so frequently, always leaving the buds uninjured, and the extreme ends of the branches without stripping. Instead of stripping the leaves, each leaf should be taken separate; if the bud should be injured, it would be spoiled for a cutting, or even foliage. Frequent defoliation of the mulberry does not injure it, although such treatment would spoil some other trees.

When trees are started from cuttings, it will often be found that a shoot will grow several inches before there is any root formed; in this case the support is derived from the atmosphere, instead of any assistance from the root, as is usual with other trees.

Vegetables of rapid growth are said to perspire their weight in twenty-four hours; this rapid evaporation or perspiration will account for so many cuttings failing to become trees; the leaves become discolored, wilt, and the plant is ruined. But to avoid this, let the cuttings be watered in dry weather, and take off the leaves until roots shall be formed.

Respecting the *cultivation*, the earth may be stirred or the trees hoed so frequently as to prevent the weeds growing; but not after the first of August, that the trees may have opportunity to form wood; and the location must be so elevated and dry as to be out of the way of water setting near the plants.

Respecting the *value* of an acre set with mulberry, it depends on the price of the mulberry and number of trees set therein. If the trees are set 2 1-2 feet apart in the rows, and the rows 3 feet apart, an acre would take 5,808 trees, which, at 25 cents each, would be worth 1,452 dollars. Some prefer to have the rows 4 feet apart, and 2 feet apart in the row; in this case it would require 5,445 trees to the acre. But provided an acre of ground shall be set with cuttings, the rows 2 feet apart, and 1 1-2 foot apart in the rows, 14,520 cuttings might be set in an acre, which, at $30 cost per 1,000, or 3 cents, would amount to $453 60 to stock an acre. It may be understood that a purchaser wishing to stock an acre of ground, the trees and cuttings could be purchased at a less price than above stated.

Taking into consideration the number of trees the most proper for an acre, and a reasonable price for the trees, the *average* price of an acre of land set with mulberries, including the land, might be worth from 750 to 1,000 dollars investment.

The *cultivation* of an acre of mulberry would, of itself, be no more than that of an acre of corn; but, including the *gathering* the leaves, *feeding* the worms, and *reeling* the silk, need not exceed 200 dollars. The *profits* of an acre of mulberry would depend upon the fidelity with which the worms are fed, and the quantity of raw silk made from the cocoons.

Some cultivators assert than an acre of ground set with mulberry will, the second year, produce foliage sufficient to feed 1,000,000 of worms, and that number of cocoons will make 333 1-2 lbs. of silk. I have no personal knowledge of one acre having been set apart for that purpose; but from experiments made with a certain number of trees, in proportion to the acre, it has been ascertained that 100 lbs. of raw silk may be made from an acre the first year of setting out; and if the roots can be preserved without removal during the winter, a much greater quantity of foliage would be furnished, and, of course, a greater quantity of silk might be made the second and third year; so that the maximum might be 300 lbs. or more of silk to the acre. But assuming the minimum quantity, (100 lbs. from an acre,) it would yield the cultivator a greater profit than from any other product from the soil.

The last year I requested several cultivators to make thorough experiments to ascertain the *certain* profits of an acre. Only one, however, met the application with the precision desired. He, by strict economy of time, labor, and expense, although he gave *three* dollars per week and board, to two experienced females, as teachers in gathering foliage, feeding worms, and reeling silk, found that his silk cost him only *two dollars* the pound, and estimates his silk worth at least six to seven dollars the pound, on account of excellency of the reeling, for which he has the liberal bounty of the State, and also a premium from the Agricultural Society. The quantity and value of silk depend on the skill and perfection of reeling.

The value of *American* silk far exceeds the imported raw silk, not only in lustre, but strength of fibre, and the small comparative waste in the manufacture; and is probably worth 25 per cent. over the imported article of raw silk.

The same cultivator informs me that, the last year, being a year of experiment, attended with loss of time and expense, which he can avoid another year, he feels confident that he can hereafter make raw silk at $1 50 per pound.

5. Respecting the most valuable silk-worm:—Perhaps the large gray or black one-crop worm on all accounts is equal to any other. There are several varieties of worms—one called the *two*-crop worm; but one good yield is worth more than two poor ones, with imperfect cocoons.

In China, where several crops are taken in succession, from hatching eggs of the preceding crop, it has been found that the quality of each succeeding crop of silk is deteriorated, and that silk grown in the elevated or northern regions of China, uniformly commands or obtains 20 per cent. more for any quantity of silk, than for silk grown in the warmer latitudes; and for the same reasons that American silk is superior to that imported. It has been thought that the Chinese seldom or never export the silk grown in the cool regions, but that it is retained for the superior fabrics.—Eggs, to be of good quality, must have the maturity of age. The usual time of hatching the first parcel of eggs, in *this climate*, is from the 15th to the 20th of June, or as soon as the mulberry leaves have a size to commence gathering. 3000 worms, (or even 2000 or 2400, if well attended,) will make cocoons sufficient for one pound of silk.

The *quantity*, *quality* and *value*, and *market* of cocoons, depend very much on the attention of feeding the worms, ventilation and cleanliness of the cocoonery; in cold seasons the worms do not make so perfect cocoons as when the weather is mild during the time of feeding.

As to a market for cocoons, the several silk factories and reeling establishments will readily purchase or reel them on hire; and that the producer should receive the benefit of good cocoons, instead of purchasing by the pound, a fair price would be given for any quantity yielding a pound of silk. The cultivator must, therefore, see the propriety of so faithfully feeding the worms as to produce hard and sound cocoons.

But the cultivator would derive the greatest profit by reeling his own cocoons, as every family might do with very little expense.

6. The Legislature of Massachusetts give a generous bounty to encourage the growth of silk—about sufficient to cover all the expense of gathering the leaves, feeding the worms, and reeling the silk; so that every pound of silk raised and made in Massachusetts may be considered a clear profit to the cultivator; rent of the land, taxes, and interest of investment not included. Nevertheless, even these items may be overcome in a very short time.

The Legislature of Massachusetts offer a bounty, on the manufacture of beets into sugar, of three cents on the pound—probably sufficient to cover the expense of manufacture.

Finally. On the subject of mulberry and silk, although it has engrossed much of my time and attention, under the most anxious solicitude for its success, and with the persuasion that it would ultimately be found the most lucrative business which the cultivator of the soil could pursue, yet, that any certain infallible rules and modes of procedure can at this early stage of the business be pointed out as applicable to all future years, I do

not believe. *But there must be a starting point*, and we must be guided by the best light now before us. It is with great diffidence I enter on the subject to be laid before the committee of Congress, being aware that I may differ in *sentiment, practice* and *opinion* from other more experienced cultivators, and that it may be found expedient hereafter to relinquish present and adopt new measures. But when intelligence shall be received and laid before the committee from various sections of the United States, I feel confident that the committee will find matter to report favorably on the culture of silk in this country.

Respectfully yours,

DANIEL STEBBINS.

To the honorable Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Washington City.

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P. S. There are in this place, two large silk factories doing a profitable business.

(From the Genesee Farmer.)

CULTIVATION—CURIOUS FACTS.

The history of some of our commonest agricultural and horticultural products, furnishes a useful lesson respecting the beneficial effects of a careful cultivation. The husbandman may read, in the case of the potato particularly, not merely the effects produced by accident in the introduction of useful plants, but the vast improvements resulting from judicious culture.

The speech of Col. Knapp, in delivering the premiums awarded by the American Institute to individuals residing in Newark, embraced many curious facts, which will probably be read with profit by inteligent farmers. We quote a few paragraphs.

"Every thing in this country, (said he,) has been brought forward by protection. In this bleak clime, but few of the sustaining fruits of the earth were here indigenous, or in a perfect state. Even the Indian corn, so often considered as native here, was with difficulty acclimated. It was brought from the South, and by degrees was coaxed to ripen in a northern latitude. The aborigines who cultivated it, taught the pilgrims how to raise it; they plucked the earliest ears with the husk and braided several of them together, for the next year's seed, and their care was rewarded by an earlier and surer crop.

"The pumpkin brought from Spain, was first planted in Rowley, Massachusetts, and it was several years before they came to a hard, knotty shell, which marks the true yankee pumpkin such as are selected for the golden pies of their glorious thanksgiving festival.

"Our wheat was with difficulty acclimated.—That brought from the mother country had grown from spring to fall, but the season was not long enough here to ensure a crop; it was then sown in the fall, grew under the snows in winter and catching the warmest growth of spring, yielded its increase by mid-summer.

"Asparagus, which is now the delight of all as an early vegetable, and for which several millions of dollars are paid our gardeners yearly, is of late culture in this country. At the time of the revolution, asparagus was only cultivated on the seaboard: this luxury had not then reached the farmer of the interior."

The history of the potato is a singular one.—Rees' Encyclopædia states that the potato was first brought from Virginia, by Sir Walter Raleigh, to Ireland. The writer should have said from South America, in the latter part of the sixteenth century. He had no idea of its ever being used as an esculent, at that time. It was pointed out to him as a beautiful flower, and its hard, bulby root was said, by the natives, to possess medicinal qualities. He took it to Ireland, where he had estates presented to him by Queen Elizabeth, and planted it in his garden. The flower did not improve by cultivation, but the root grew larger and softer. The potato, in its native bed, was a coarse ground nut. The thought struck the philosopher to try the potato as an edible, and boiling and roasting it, found it, by either process, excellent. He then gave some of the plants to the peasantry, and they soon became, in a measure, a substitute for bread, when the harvest was scanty.

"The potato was successfully cultivated in Ireland, before it was thought of in England; it grew in favor by slow degrees, and was so little known when our pilgrim fathers came to this country, that it was not thought of for a crop in the New World. It would have been an excellent thing for them if they had been acquainted with the value of the potato. It was not till 1719, that the Irish potato reached this country. A colony of Presbyterian Irish, who settled in Londonderry, in New Hampshire, brought the root with them. This people found their favorite vegetable flourished well in new grounds. By degrees their neighbors came into the habit of raising potatoes; but many years elapsed before the cultivation of it was general among the yeomanry of the country. Long after they were cultivated in New England, they were held in contempt, and the master mechanic often had to stipulate with his apprentice that he should not be obliged to eat potatoes. An aged mechanic once informed me that he raised nine bushels, having at that time (1746) a dozen apprentices, but did not venture to offer them a boiled potato with the meat, but left them in the cellar for the apprentices to get and roast as they pleased; he soon found that he should not have enough for seed, and locked up what was left. The next year he raised the enormous quantity of thirtysix bushels; the neighbors stared—but his boys devoured them during the following winter.

"About this time, some of the gentry brought this vegetable on their tables, and the prejudice against them vanished. Thus, by degrees, a taste for this food was formed, never to be extinguished. The cultivation of the potato is now well understood—a crop ameliorates, instead of impoverishing the soil, and the culture can be increased to any extent. Thus, by the curiosity of one lover of nature, and his experiments, has an humble weed been brought from the mountains of South America, and spread over Europe and North America, until it is emphatically called 'the bread of nations.' Still, the country from which it was taken, has been too ignorant or superstitious to attempt its cultivation, until within a few years.—Now, the lights of science are chasing away the long, deep shadows of the Andes.

"Rice was brought from India in 1722, and cultivated by way of experiment in South Carolina. It succeeded well, and was, for many years, the staple article of the State. It seems strange, but it is not more strange than true, that a vegetable should have a moral and religious influence over the minds of men. Brahma could never have forced his code of religious rites, with an hundred incarnations, if India had not abounded in the rice plant. His followers would have become carniverous, notwithstanding all the rays of his glory, and the awful exhibitions of his might, if he had not driven the animals away, and secured the vegetable kingdom for his worshippers. Man is, in spite of his philosophy, a creature of the earth—and in a common measure, like the chameleon, takes the hues of his character from his position and his food.

"The cotton plant was at first cultivated as a flower in our gardens, and a beautiful flower it is. This plant alone, has made a revolution in the finances of the world. Look at the growth and consumption of it in the United States, and the immense manufacture of it in England, where it cannot be grown, and you will find my assertion true in its most extended sense.

"Until our purchase of Louisiana, this country was indebted to the East and West Indies for sugar. In this country—the thirteen U. States—sugar and molasses were made in small quantities, from corn-stalks, sweet apples, pumpkins and maple sugar trees; but all put together, furnished but a small part of the sugar demanded by the great mass of people. Our people are fond of saccharine, or sweetening, to use our peculiar term for it.

"The corn stalk, the pumpkin, and the sweet apple, are given up for sugar or molasses—and the maple tree is falling before the axe, and we must rely on the sugar cane alone, unless we can substitute, as in France, the sugar beet. The culture of the sugar beet has been commenced with us, and probably will be successful."

HORTICULTURAL.—Having lately noticed, in our principal market, very fine *Parsnips*, the produce of this vicinage, we invite the attention of the growers thereof, and that of our horticultural friends generally, to the following paragraph, copied from a late English paper:

Parsnip Wine.—Wine made of Parsnip-root approaches nearer to the Malmsey of Madeira and the Canaries than any other wine: it is made with little expense or trouble, and only requires to be made as agreeable to the palate as it is wholesome to the body. To every 4 pounds of parsnips, clear and quartered, put one gallon of water; boil them till they are quite tender; drain them through a sieve, but do not bruise them, as no remedy would clear them afterwards. Pour the liquor into a tub, and to each gallon add 3 pounds of loaf sugar, and and half an ounce of crude tartar. When cooled to the temperature of 75 degrees, put in a little new yeast; let it stand four days in a warm room, then turn it. The mixture should, if possible, be fermented in a temperature of 60 degrees. September and March are the proper seasons for making the wine. When the fermentation has subsided, bung down the cask, and let the wine stand at least twelve months before bottling.

OIL FROM VEGETABLES.—A discovery has been made in England, by which oil may be obtained in greater abundance from the seeds of vegetables by applying to them diluted muriatic acid.—*N. Y. Star.*

THE SEASON. The grass promises a heavy crop of hay, now become one of New England's staples. Other crops look well.—*Portsm. Jour.*

From the Cultivator.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

Albany, 16th April 1839.

To Hon. J. Buel—Sir,—It is with no small degree of difficulty that I comply with the request you were pleased to make in a recent conversation I had with you, in relation to a judicious plan of instruction for the "New York Agricultural School," and the advantages that will be likely to result therefrom; for my experience has not been extensive nor varied enough for so important a purpose. Therefore, I can only submit the following abstract, which if it should merit your approval, and be deemed worthy of an insertion in the Cultivator, you are at liberty to make that use of it; if you think otherwise, you have my concurrence. The chief object of the school should be to form practical mechanics, civil engineers, operative chemists, veterinary surgeons and practical agriculturists. It should be endowed with six professorships of the following subjects:

1. Mathematics and Design.
2. Rural Architecture and Civil Engineering.
3. Natural Philosophy and Practical Mechanics.
4. Geology, Mineralogy and Chemistry.
5. Entomology, Botany and Practical Husbandry.
6. Comparative Anatomy and the Veterinary Art.

The preparatory studies for entering the school should be reading, writing, English grammar, common arithmetic, history, geography and book-keeping by single entry. No pupil should enter who is under seventeen years of age; who does not sustain a good moral character, and who has not a constitution adapted to active employment in the field.

The instruction of the school should be of two kinds, *general* and *special*.

The *general* instruction should continue two years, to be comprised of courses given by the professors at suitable periods, commencing each year on the first Wednesday in January, and continuing until the first Wednesday in September, from which, to the first Wednesday in December the pupils should be put under general examination upon all the branches in which they have received instruction.

During the entire courses, the pupils should be interrogated by the professors on the various branches they are pursuing, and should perform manipulations in chemistry, natural philosophy, mechanics, engineering, rural architecture, and ornamental gardening; and whenever the season would permit, to devote a portion of their time to tillage and other kinds of work connected with rural affairs, and occasionally to accompany the professors or their adjuncts on botanical and geological excursions.

The drawings should consist of plans made with the scale and dividers, and of outlines sketched by the hand relative to the courses pursued; the whole of which should be executed by the pupils, and should be duly verified by the professors. What has been said of the drawings should be repeated in regard to the manipulations. They should be sufficiently numerous to give to the pupils a positive knowledge of every branch pursued.

Independently of the interrogatories and manipulations, as stated above, the pupils should have general meetings for discussing topics relative to their studies, and for digesting memoirs upon various questions of political economy, statistics, &c.

At the end of the second scholastic year, the pupils should submit themselves for examination for their fitness or unfitness of entering the duties of their special education; and if they receive their certificate of capability, they should name, with the consent of their parents or guardians, the career for which they design themselves, and during the third year they should be practically employed in the kinds of business they intend to carry on. Should they be deemed incompetent to enter their special education, they should be permitted to repeat their course of studies, or to depart without any certificate of capability, or even of their connexion with the school.

At the general examination at the end of each scholastic year, there should be selected from the school six of the most distinguished pupils, who should serve as adjunct professors, and who should receive, besides this distinction, their instruction gratuitously during the third year. Independently of their special duties, they should assist their professors, and give elementary lessons to pupils whose preparatory studies may have been too small.

The *special* instruction should occupy the third scholastic year, during which the pupils should be actively engaged in the kinds of business for which they design to prepare themselves, whether to pursue general studies so as to qualify themselves for professors, or to become practical mechanics and civil engineers, operative chemists, manufacturers, veterinary surgeons, or practical agriculturists. They should then be placed under the special direction of the professors of the branches they pursue, who should afford them daily conferences, to point out to them a plan of operations, to follow their progress, and to designate the portions of the courses it would be useful to repeat anew.

The school should be furnished with a library of select books on mathematics, natural history, agriculture and the veterinary art. It should be provided with an extensive philosophical and chemical apparatus, and with a collection of plants, minerals and anatomical preparations. There should be constantly kept on the farm a large stock of the most useful breeds of domestic animals, and an hospital for the reception of sick animals, and for veterinary practice. The farm should be large enough to produce a sufficient quantity of food and vegetables for the animals kept upon it, and to embrace as great a variety of soils as possible, and a water privilege. It should be principally tilled by the students, who should be practically instructed in the nature and composition of soils, the economy and preparation of manures, the adaptation of crops to particular soils, and the alternation of crops.

The buildings belonging to the establishment should be well constructed, and adapted to the objects for which they are intended. The laboratories and work-shops designed for manipulation and experiments should be spacious, so that a large number of students can labor in them at a time. There should be attached to the school a carpenter and wood-turner's shop, and of a mounter and turner of metals. Workmen should be employed under the eyes of the students, whether in constructing models for the collection of the school, or in making parts of machinery ordered by the pupils in their exercises, and to give them proper notions upon the handling of tools, the use of the forge, &c.

In fine, there should be placed in the hands of the students all the materials necessary for the construction of agricultural implements and machines, and such as are employed in rural architecture; and, in order to give the work as practical a character as possible, they should have at their disposal a certain number of models, implements, and machines which they can put up and take down, to operate, and to submit to such trials as will enable them to estimate their useful effect.

There should be connected with the school, either directly or indirectly, into which the students could be introduced in order to study the operation, establishments for the fabrication of chemical products; for the making of charcoal from wood; for the preparation of coke; for the extraction of marine salt; for the preparation of lime, gypsum, potash and soda; for the making and refining of sugar; for the preparation of wine, beer, cider, oils, tallow; and for the manufacture of flour, starch, soap, candles, and numerous other products; which would afford the students means to acquire a practical knowledge of the labors relative to their fabrication.

Such is a general plan of what may be deemed proper to improve the condition of our agriculture. Independently of the special objects of this seminary, young men will find a positive education, which will inspire them with a taste for agricultural pursuits, because they will see that labor guided by science is fruitful in useful results. Such a course of instruction will offer to those who shall distinguish themselves a station in society as honorable as it is lucrative, and will be regarded equivalent to a collegiate education, in harmony with the spirit of our institutions, the importance of which will be more and more felt, in proportion to the growth of the mighty west, which will receive new developments, when its political influence is better understood.

When we reflect upon the great interests of our country, we cannot but look with regret upon the neglected condition of our agriculture. For some years past, this all-important branch of industry has experienced serious obstacles, not only from being viewed by many as a degraded occupation, but from the want of attention and intelligence in the great body of our population. We have in our country numerous young men who have ample means for entering largely into this branch of business, but who are too little enlightened in regard to its nature, and refrain from industry, and suffer their capital, even with great losses, to remain dormant. We have others, too, who are without capital, and have a remarkable tendency towards the study of the practical sciences, of which we all feel the need in our actual or our future occupations. The latter class of young men would be incalculably benefited by this course of education, and might be usefully and profitably employed as civil engineers, as directors of establishments, as well as teachers and professors in our colleges and schools.

In order that agricultural industry may develop itself throughout our country, it is necessary that our practical studies should enter into our manners; and this to such a degree, that each capitalist may find, either in himself or around him,

able counsel. We should break down the barrier to every species of industry, and by leaving every man to enjoy the fruits of his own labor, undiminished by the exaction of a rapacious government. Let these principles be the immovable basis of our political economy. Our commerce and our manufactures should be defended and cherished like the sacred soil of our Republic. With means so ample and unembarrassed, we should give more enterprise and extension to works of domestic improvement. A taste for agricultural pursuits should be inspired, and new impulse given to public spirit. Institutions should be established, which, by assimilating the feelings of our citizens, may strengthen that union which is the bulwark of our national independence. Already the influence of our character far exceeds that of our strength, and our claims to the rank of a primary power, are admitted by the whole world, whose attention daily becomes more and more fixed upon our conduct. A great example is wanted by mankind—from us they demand it—and the cause of universal liberty is interwoven in our actions.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your devoted servant. D. JAY BROWNE.

(For the N. E. Farmer.)

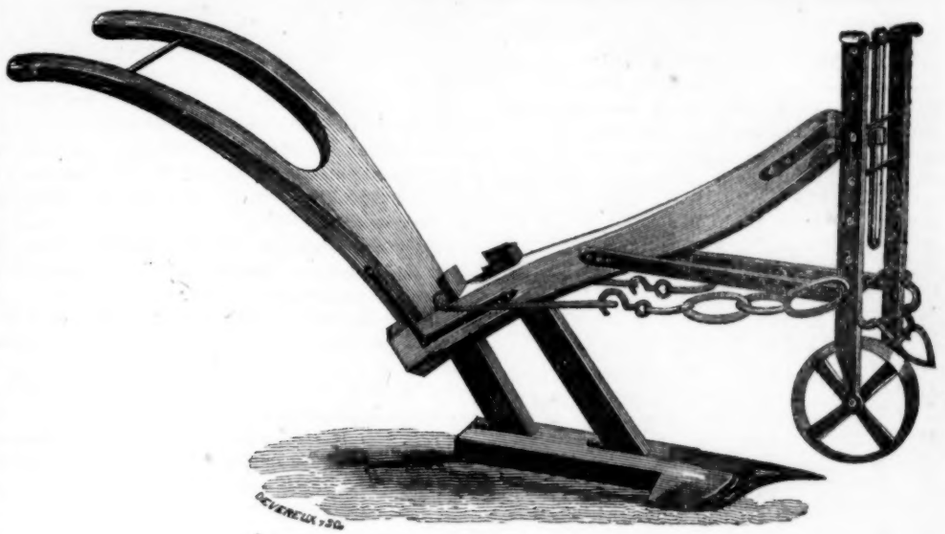
Mr Editor—I read with interest in your paper of the 9th inst., Mr Kenrick's account of Dr Joel Burnett's ingenious device to destroy the Curculio. In this region our plums have been entirely cut off by this fell destroyer.

The trees bloom and the young fruits appear in due time in great abundance. But by the time they arrive to the size of a common black cherry of a sudden every one of them will show a small drop of colorless fluid, oozing from the most depending part. In a little time they will begin to drop off and ere they arrive to maturity not one remains on the trees. Having two fine green gage and one chickasaw plum-trees in my garden, I had seen my hopes blasted from year to year. I commenced at last picking up the plums as soon as they fell and at the same time putting them into the fire or otherwise destroying them, but I found this to be a tedious and almost hopeless undertaking, for if I destroyed in this way the future progeny about my own trees, my neighbors trees would soon furnish a fresh colony of invaders. Not knowing what expedient the invisible enemy took to make the attack, whether by the wing or by crawling up the body of the trees, but hoping it might be by the latter way, I had my trees tinned and the trenches of the tin channel around the trees, I filled with water and a little lamp oil to float on its surface. The readers of your valuable paper may see a description of tins, the form and manner of applying them, in No. 10 of the present volume of the N. E. Farmer. Since the application of tins to my trees they have borne abundantly, and the last season I gathered 1 1-2 bushels of delicious plums from my two green gage trees.

The same application to apple trees is found effectual in preventing the ascent of the canker worm, and is well worth the trial on plum trees, and it is believed will prove equally efficacious in destroying the Curculio. The cost for each tree will not exceed 25 cts.

Yours, &c. L. W. BRIGGS.

Bristol, R. I. May 12, 1838.



RACK HEATH PLOUGH.

"The plate introduces to public notice, what in my humble estimation promises to be one of the most useful inventions ever exhibited to the farmer, whether of sharp clays or stiff gravels; and when I say this, I do not mean in the slightest degree to disparage the subsoil plough of Mr Smith. I would rather include his implement in my encomium; because the objects of each being the same, viz: *loosening* not *turning up* the subsoil, I do not see why each invention should not have occurred simultaneously, without either of the authors being chargeable with plagiarism.—The one is a *foot*, the other a *wheel* plough. The public must decide which is best."

"Sir Edward Stracey says, he invented his plough in the year 1833. He adds, I have broken up nearly 500 acres of heath land with this plough; my crops have been nearly doubled; the wheat produced on the land so broken up has been fine plump grain, weighing about 63 1-2 lbs. to the imperial bushel; and it has fetched the best price in the market, when before the deep ploughing the land scarcely produced the seed; the wheat was poor and shrivelled; and as I had no manure to lay on the ground I can ascribe the goodness of the crop to nothing but the deep ploughing."

"For planting trees this plough far exceeds digging, as, by proper management, the soil may be broken two feet deep all around; instead of the young trees being crammed into a little hole, where they have no room to breathe; and the whole may be done at a fourth of the expense of trenching. Some of my neighbors are getting these ploughs for the express purpose of planting.—*British Farmer's Magazine, for July* 1837.

SILK AND BEET SUGAR.

Silk and Beet Premiums, to be awarded, March 1839, by the Hampshire, Hampden and Franklin Agricultural Society.

On the greatest quantity of Raw Silk, the growth of 1838, samples to be exhibited at the annual March meeting, 1839, $5, 4, 3, 2, 1,

On the greatest quantity of Silk, being the growth of 1838, and manufactured into sewing silk or articles of apparel, samples to be exhibited March 1839, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1,

On the greatest quantity of Sugar made from beets, grown in 1838, on not less than 1 acre, sample to be exhibited at the annual March meeting, 1839, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4,

On the greatest length and best arranged hedge for fence, not less than 50 rods, 10, 6, 4,

On the greatest number of Yellow Locust trees, which shall be grown in 1838, for the purpose of timber trees, and on which a premium has never been awarded, 10, 7, 5,

On the greatest number of Yellow Locust trees, which shall be raised from seed sown in 1838, 6, 5, 3,

On the greatest quantity of sound Corn raised on one acre of land in 1838, with a written description of the mode of cultivation, the quantity of manure used and mode of application, together with the whole cost and expense attending the cultivation, and such further remarks by each of the claimants for premiums offered on the foregoing, as they may judge to be of importance to the community, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4,

Premiums on Silk and Mulberry do not apply to Corporations, yet it would be gratifying to have samples of their manufacture presented at the annual exhibition.

Anti-Combustion Discovered.—We have now before us a piece of muslin, which, on being put into the flame of a candle, or thrown into the fire, merely carbonises, without inflaming; so that any woman dressed in materials so prepared cannot be burnt by any of those accidents by which both young and aged too often suffer the most painful deaths. The finest colors are not affected by the process. It is equally applicable to every substance, from the canvass of a ship of war to the finest lace, for the curtains of beds, the furniture of rooms, the coverings of sofas, and all those materials which often cause conflagration. It also prevents the attacks of mildew. Papers subjected to great heat only carbonise, and leave the writing, or the numbers and value of bank notes, legible. The general utility of this discovery will command attention. We understand that a foreign Government has commanded its use, and that a company is forming here for its immediate introduction.—*London Lit. Gaz.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 1838.

MANURE—GREEN FEED—TURNIPS.

Before farming can be rendered what it may be, and what it ought to be among us, an important revolution must take place in the farmers' management and cultivation. Every observing and intelligent farmer knows that manure is the great means of success; that without it, success in our old lands is not to be expected; and that with it our farms, if they do not produce as much in quantity, will often make a very much larger pecuniary return than three times the quantity of land in the fertile regions of the West. The market gardeners near the capital perfectly appreciate the value of manure; and pay for it prices, which are absolutely astounding. We have known five and even six dollars per cord given for manure, which the farmer had then to transport six and even ten miles, at an expense before it could be placed upon his fields, certainly not less than four dollars, making the total cost of the manure nine or ten dollars per cord. Yet even in spite of this enormous expense, it is a common, and we believe a well-founded remark, that the most successful and thrifty farmers in the vicinity of Boston are those who are most liberal in the purchase of manure. We believe that a great deal of this expense might be saved to these farmers by providing with more care and judgment for their own wants; and that the farmers in the interior, who are too remote from the city to supply their wants from that source, ought to make it a great object of their study and operations to create as large a manure heap as possible from sources within their immediate reach, or within their power to create.

On another occasion we shall go into this subject much more at large. Our present design is to point out one means or source of increasing the manure heap, which can and should be provided for at this very season: and that is the cultivation of green and succulent vegetable crops for the feeding of their stock.

It is too late to think of much else than turnips; the common white turnip, the yellow Aberdeen, and the Swedish turnip or ruta baga. Our winters are long and our cattle suffer much from being kept so long and constantly upon dry fodder; corn stalks often musty and half rotted; and coarse hay of a very inferior quality, which no person will buy; and which the cattle must eat or die, just as they choose. We are perpetually hearing farmers boast how poorly and how cheaply they keep their milch cows and their young stock through the winter; but much as they plume themselves on their skill in this matter, we have never been able to bring ourselves to admire either their good judgment, or their humanity; to say nothing of the justice or rather the injustice, the absolute immorality, of half-starving so useful and beneficent an animal as a cow, who contributes so liberally to our support and comfort. Besides it is in truth the worst of all economy. A good cow will, in any situation, where milk is worth but two cents a quart, and skim milk is almost always worth as much as that to be given to swine of a proper and good kind, more than twice pay for the best keeping that can be given to her. A good farmer ought to be ashamed to keep a poor and worthless cow; and a cow which is well kept through the winter is nearly half kept through the ensuing summer. A cow that comes out in the spring half wintered, poor, and consumptive for want of sufficient food, will evidence the bad effects of such miserable and disgraceful husbandry all the ensuing season. It is commonly said that dry cows may be kept on almost any thing, which will barely enable them to stand upon four legs and hold body and soul together, if the poor things have any souls; but how does the cow constitution differ from the constitution of any other animal; and is it not obvious that any animal in a bearing condition particularly requires at such times sufficient and the most nutritious food?

No man then making any pretensions to the character of a farmer ought to suffer himself to go into the winter without a most ample supply of green succulent vegetables for his stock. Beets, parsnips, carrots, potatoes, all are good; but turnips are raised with more ease than almost any other vegetable; and it is not too late, and will not be too late even through the month of July to plant some kinds of turnip for the winter consumption of live stock. Every farmer who keeps a horse, a yoke of oxen, and six cows ought to raise at least four or six acres of ruta baga or common turnip. We know that this will frighten many farmers and make them open their eyes almost to an extent as large as the turnips, which they commonly grow, who have always thought it enough to plough up a piece of land by the road side or some corner of a field, as big as their wife's apron, where they have yarded their cows; and who feel great self-complacency in their extraordinary husbandry, if they perchance should have the mighty quantity of fifty bushels of white flat turnips to put into their cellar in the autumn. Instead of this many a farmer ought to have his one, two, three, and four thousand bushels to put in his stores; and such a capital heap for his winter consumption, as to make his cows and his oxen think as well of him as his neighbors will be compelled to think when they shall see how his stock came out in the spring. We hope the time is not distant, and that our eyes will be blessed with the sight of it, when such practices will be general, not to say universal.

What would be the consequences of such management it is easy to predict. Our horses, instead of being those miserable, jaded, galled, Rosinante looking forms, which they now exhibit, suitable only as one observes to make lanterns of, if you could contrive to get a lighted candle into their mouths, would be round, sleek, strong, and spirited animals, fit for pleasure or for labor, and not require to be driven 'woman fashion' by the bit with both hands holds of the reins. Our oxen would be in high condition, able to labor and always ready for the butcher when we saw fit to consign them to his disposal. Our young stock instead of being that lean, puny, constantly degenerating stock now but too commonly seen in our barnyards, half starved upon orts and refuse hay would double their value, and our cows would in most cases actually treble their produce; and make it not difficult to make butter little inferior to June butter in the midst of winter; to what profit and advantage every farmer might easily ascertain by bringing such butter made and put up in the best manner, to Boston market in the months of February and March.

We advise then most strongly our brother farmers the cultivation of green crops for their winter consumption. Few farmers are ignorant of the mode of cultivating the common turnips. We advise however that they should be sown in drills from two feet to twenty-seven inches apart, that the cultivator or plough may be constantly used among them. It is scarcely worth while to attempt their cultivation, unless they are to be well tended—These turnips may be sowed any time in the month of July; and if you have no other land upon which to place them, then turn up a piece of green sward, being careful completely to invert the sod, and to cultivate the field without breaking or disturbing the sod.

The Ruta Baga requires a longer cultivation. We have raised good crops on turning over a clover ley after the grass was cut and sowing them the first part of July. In this case we obtained from three to four hundred bushels. But it would be better to sow the plants in a seed bed in your garden, and when your field is ready for setting them out transplant them. After your land is thoroughly manured and prepared, then furrow it out at a distance of 27 or 30 inches apart; then take up your plants, and having dipped the roots in water lay them in the furrows, being careful to select the best plants only, at a distance of a foot apart; and then cover them with a plough, we mean of course the roots only, letting a hand follow with a hoe to set up those which are too deeply buried, and to secure those which the covering has not reached. There is very little risk that they will not live; you can scarcely kill them unless you lay them on a stone, where they cannot reach the ground—and the advantage of this method is that you choose your time to the greatest advantage for preparing your land; you save time by getting your plants forward before your field is prepared; you have an opportunity of selecting your best plants; and all the trouble of thinning out your plants is saved, as you set them at the distances, at which you determine they shall stand.

But the great objection will be, we have not manure enough;—begin then with what you have—otherwise you never will have enough. The very way to get manure is to increase the succulent food for your stock.—No article of feed, which can be given to stock will produce such large secretions of urine, and where straw and mud are bountifully supplied, enable the farmer to make so much manure, as turnips. Be content then, at first, with a small yield; but take the first step—go on in the cultivation; get what you can; use all you can get; the more turnips you raise the more manure you will have; the more manure you have, the more turnips you can raise; the more turnips you raise the more stock you can keep, the more butter, beef, mutton and pork you will make; the more produce the more money; the more money the more improvement and cultivation; the more improvement and cultivation, the more production; the more production the more wealth.—Now "gee up Dobbin." Don't say I can't. If that word is in your vocabulary, out with it; and never suffer it longer to disgrace your husbandry. The creation of manure is the creation of wealth. The manure heap is the farmer's gold mine. Increase it—increase it. Often it happens that the time occupied in going to the city to get a cord of manure, which costs the farmer ten dollars in the end, to say nothing of the vexations which always attend it, would, from materials and means within his own reach at home, enable the farmer to make three cords in his premises. Think of this, Brother Jonathan.

CONGRESS.

Congress is still in session; and for aught we see is in a fair way to become a permanent body. They exhibit only few signs of life; but those of quite a brilliant character. They have been for some time much in the situation of a fire raked up over night. It appears to be out, put when you open the ashes in the morning with the poker, there are some sparks, which suddenly explode; and some brands, that will blaze. There is a good deal of combustible matter in Congress; and besides the internal heat, there is no doubt the external heat increases the fever. Of late, some of the

gentlemen in Congress have shown off in a most masterly and honorable style. They have told each other in debate they lied. They have put their fists in each other's faces; and have aimed spit-boxes at each other's heads. With so much virulent matter on their stomachs it is to be regretted that they should not keep these boxes for their legitimate uses, and let these feculent concoctions work themselves off by the natural way. If this is likely to continue to be the course of things at Washington, we should respectfully advise an immediate adjournment to the new Hall erected at Five Points in New York. It is on a magnificent style of architure. This is not, however, what we were thinking of. The atmosphere of the location must be most congenial to such bloods. The congressional language used on these occasions is there the vernacular tongue. The established rules of such honorable squabbles are there perfectly understood; and a ring of professional amateurs can be got up at any time, who will see that "fair play is a jewel, my honey."

The removal of the Cherokees has begun under the bayonets of the United States troops. By a treaty spotted all over with fraud and treachery, these abused and helpless Indians are to be driven from their peaceful cabins; from fields, which we good Christians have been trying to teach them to cultivate; and from their fathers' sepulchres, that the plough of the white man may mark his title upon them. Humanity sickens at the outrage, and her heart beats with agony as though it would burst its casements. The general government proposes in the last resort conditions of mercy and amicable adjustment. The State of Georgia, more savage than the aborigineeS, defies the general government and disdains all propositions for mercy. These wretched people then must go. It would seem as though no earthly power could avert their melancholy fate; and a page of our natural history, as black as ever disgraced the annals of mankind, must then remain to exhibit the horrid and bloody triumphs of a treachery never surpassed; an avarice utterly insatiable; and an inhuman abuse of power unrivalled in its ferocity by the cannibals of New Zealand.

Will the vengeance of heaven always sleep over the wrongs of the whites towards the colored races? What in God's name, they may well ask us, is this thing, which you call Christianity? How will Jessup meet Osceola at the tribunal, where there is no respect of persons; from which there can be no appeal; and where the spangled epaulette, the waving plume, and the glittering sword, spotted with the blood of innocence and helplessuess, so far from claiming favor, will themselves demand, trumpet-tongued, the terrible retributions of treachery and the inhuman abuse of power.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, June 11, 1838.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 165 Beef Cattle, 16 pairs Working Oxen, 18 Cows and calves, 275 Sheep and 300 Swine. 25 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Owing probably to the excessive warm weather the market was not very animated, and last week's prices were not sustained through the day.

First quality $8 00 a $8 50. Second quality $7 25 a $7 75.—Third quality, $7 00 a $7 25.

Working Oxen.— Sales $88, $92, $125

Cows and Calves.— Sales $25, $28, $29, $37.

Sheep and Lambs. Lots were taken at about 2 50, including a few wethers:—a lot of wethers at $3 33 each. a few cossets, price not known.

Swine.— The market was much less animated: an extralot were taken for 9 & 10, a lot of old hogs at 7 1-2, at retail from 8 to 12 varying according to size and quality.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending June 10.

May, 1838.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	4	58	82	68	S.
Tuesday,	5	50	74	60	S. E.
Wednesday,	6	48	70	58	E.
Thursday,	7	52	72	60	S.
Friday,	8	56	80	64	S. E.
Saturday,	9	58	84	68	S.
*Sunday,	10	68	92	74	S.

*At 3 o'clock P. M. the mercury stood at 97 in the shade.

FOR SALE OR TO LET.

A pleasant and convenient house in complete repair situated on the Worcester Turnpike, 5 1-2 miles from Boston and 2 miles from Brighton market. The house contain contains 9 large rooms, and has a barn, chaise house and sheds attached. Also, with the same, 3 acres of mowing and tillage land and 1 1-2 acres wood land. An adjoining lot of 5 acres can be had, if desired. Three quarters of the purchase money can remain upon a mortgage. If not sold, the house will be let to a good tenant. Enquire of D. HOLBROOK
No. 51 Court St. Boston, or on the premises.
June 13, 1838,

DOUBLE DAHLIAS.

consisting of all the approved varieties.

King's Manure Forks.

Also, a few dozen of Jahasiah S. King's superior cast steel

Strap Manure Forks.

A first rate article. Also, sets of

Japan Flower Pots,

very neat and durable. Also, Complete Garden and

Horticultural Tool Chests,

from Sheffield, England; containing Garden Shears, Improved pruning Shears and Scissors, Pruning and Grafting Knives, Flower Gatherer, Garden. Dutch and Triangular Hoes, Saw, Spud, Weeding Hook, Garden Rake, Trowel, Hammer and Garden Reel; comprising every useful implement necessary for the cultivation of the Flower Garden. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 North Market Street.
May 9, 1838.

REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Rake, which has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is found to be one of the most useful and labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse will rake on an average, from fifteen to twenty acres per day, with ease, and do the work well, it not being necessary to stop the horse to unload. They are coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and will, no doubt, in a few years, supercede the use of the common hand rake. For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

MACKEY PIGS.

A few Mackey Pigs of the genuine breed, raised at the Farm School Island; apply soon to Joseph Breck & Co
June 6, 1838.

AMERICAN FLOWER GARDEN COMPANION.

The American Flower Garden Companion, adapted to the Northern States,

Who loves a garden, loves a green-house too,
Unconscious of a less propitious clime.
There blooms exotic beauty, warm and snug,
While the winds whistle, and the snows descend.

By Edward Sayers, Landscape and Ornamental Gardener. Published by Joseph Breck & Co., and for sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

SITUATION WANTED.

Wanted a situation, by a scientific gardener, one who thoroughly understands his business and can produce the best of recommendations. Apply at the N. E. Farmer Office, 51 & 52 North Market St. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

OIL MEAL.

PRICE REDUCED.

The price of the above is now reduced to Twentyfive dollars at the mill, in Medford, and Twenty eight dollars per ton delivered in Boston. Apply at
No. 10, Granite Stores, Commercial Wharf.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

			FROM	TO
Apples,		barrel	2 00	3 00
Beans, white,		bushel	1 25	1 75
Beef, mess,		barrel	14 00	14 50
	No. 1.	"	12 00	13 00
	prime,	"	10 50	11 00
Beeswax, (American)		pound	25	31
Cheese, new milk,		"	8	9
Feathers, northern, geese,		"		
	southern, geese,	"	37	45
Flax, (American)		"	9	12
Fish, Cod,		quintal	3 62	3 75
Flour, Gennessee, cash,		barrel	8 00	8 25
	Baltimore, Howard street,	"	8 00	8 12
	Baltimore, wharf,	"	7 75	8 00
	Alexandria,	"	7 75	8 00
	Rye,	"	5 00	5 25
Meal, Indian, in hogsheads,			3 75	4 00
" " " barrels,				16 00
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,		bushel	78	80
	southern flat, yellow,	"	76	77
	white,	"	74	75
Rye, northern,		"	1 05	1 10
Barley,		"	80	85
Oats, northern, (prime)		"	47	48
Hay, best English, per ton of 2000 lbs.			14 00	16 00
Eastern screwed,				
Honey, Cuba,		gallon	46	53
Hops, 1st quality,		pound	7	8
2d quality,		"	4	5
Lard, Boston, 1st sort,		"	9	10
southern, 1st sort,		"	8	9
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,		"	27	30
do. country do.		"	23	30
Baltimore city tannage,		"	23	26
do. dry hides,		"	20	22
New York red, light,		"	19	21
Boston, do. slaughter,		"	19	20
Boston dry hides,		"	17	19
Lime, best sort,		cask	80	85
Mackerel, No. 1, new,		barrel	11 50	12 00
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.		cask	2 37	2 50
Pork, extra clear,		barrel	23 50	24 00
clear,		"	22 50	23 00
Mess,		"		20 00
Seeds: Herd's Grass,		bushel	2 63	3 00
Red Top, southern,		"	80	1 00
northern,		"		
Hemp,		"	2 62	3 00
Red Clover, northern,		pound		18
Southern Clover,		"	17	18
Tallow, tried,		lb.	9	10
Teazles, 1st sort,		pr. M.	3 00	3 50
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,		pound	55	57
American, full blood, washed,		"	48	50
do. 3-4ths do.		"	44	46
do. 1-2 do.		"	38	40
do. 1-4 and common,		"	33	35
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,		"	43	46
No. 1,		"	40	42
No. 2,		"		39
No. 3,		"		

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Hams, northern,	pound	12	13
southern and western,	"	10	12
Pork, whole hogs,	"	10	11
Poultry, per pair,	"	62	1 00
Butter, tub,	"	20	25
lump,	"		25
Eggs,	dozen	14	18
Potatoes, chenango,	bushel	30	50
Cider,	barrel	2 75	3 00

BONE MANURE.

The subscriber desires to inform his friends and the public that he has been in in the Bone business more than ten years, and has spent much time and money to ascertain how bones may be converted to the best use, and is fully satisfied that they form the most powerful stimulant that can be applied to the earth as a manure. He offers for sale ground bone at a low price, and is ready to receive orders to any amount, which will be promptly attended to.

Orders may be left at my manufactory near Tremont road, n Roxbury, or at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street.
Jan. 31. NAHUM WARD

MISCELLANY.

For the N. E. Farmer.

THE LUMPKIN LOT.

Guy Lumpkin was a loggerhead ;
Yet Guy had self-esteem ;
He challenged all to mow, or chop,
Or thresh, or drive a team.

One *Captain Sly*, he took him up,
And bet that he would beat him
In mowing a twelve-acre piece,
If Lumpkin dared to meet him.

Up bristled Guy, "bold as a sheep !"
"Come Sly," said he, "here's go it ;
I rather guess you'll rue the day
You tried with me to mow it."

Then at the centre of the field
The roguish Sly set in,
And Lumpkin, following at his heels,
Slashed on through thick and thin.

So, round and round they swung their scythes,
And laid the meadow low ;
And many a rustic left his work,
To see the braggarts mow.

They drove ahead right lustily ;
They snuffed, and blowed, and sweat ;
And, for a while it doubtful seemed
Who would obtain the bet.

Poor Lumpkin, not a Newton born,
The difference did not see
Betwixt the greater and the less
Of the periphery.

The witless clown began to loll,
And thought the deuce was in 't ;
"By gol," said he, "in my born days,
I never had such a stint !"

Then some one whispered in his ear ;
Guy stopt, and gazed around ;—
"O, blazes take ye, Sly !" he cried,
"I'm mowing too much ground !"

The joke was seen ;—the trial ceased ;—
The parties left the spot ;
But yet this field has ever since
Been call'd—the *Lumpkin Lot*.

AGRICOLA.

THE CONTRAST.

The astonishing power of hereditary opinions, and of impressions received in early education, is attempted to be illustrated, by the following dialogue, supposed to have occurred in an evening conversation, between the farmer of the hereditary school, and his son, on the latter's return from school, where he had studied, with some interest, the principles of scientific farming.

LANSINGBURGH.

Father.—Well, John, since you are becoming a scholar, I suppose you have quite outgrown the thoughts of becoming a farmer ?

Son.—No, father, the effect is quite the contrary. I have been paying considerable attention to the study of agriculture ; and I assure you I have found it a most delightful subject.

F. From the number of books and foolish newspapers, all about farming, you have brought home, you are in a fair way to run crazy and turn book farmer — why son I would sooner see you engaged in catching grasshoppers.

S. Then, I suppose father, you consider farming is not susceptible of any improvements.

F. Improvements, why what improvements do you want, John ? Have I not been a farmer all the days of my life — and a good farmer ? and were not my father and grandfather good farmers, brought up to it ? and now I have been sending you to school, and on your return home, you have commenced teaching me how to farm. No — no — John, that won't do — I am too old to begin to learn my trade from books, written by a parcel of lazy fellows, who never hoed a hill of corn in their lives.

S. Then, I suppose you will plant corn on the same old field behind the barn where you have always planted it, and feed the same breed of long snouted razor backed hogs.

F. Yes, John, I have hoed corn in that old field many a day by the side of your grandfather ; and it is good enough for me yet ; and the pork of my old breed of hogs brought me over a hundred dollars last winter, and I have no doubt, they will bring me as much this winter coming ; and if you intend to be a farmer, and are wise you will follow my example, and not be led into the wild goose chase of book farming.

S. Well, father, I am not disposed to question your claim to the title of a good farmer ; and I am proud of being descended from ancestors of that most ancient and most honorable calling ; but should I arrive at the honor of pursuing it on my own account, I shall feel additional pride in meriting the appellation of a book farmer. If I can succeed in raising sixty bushels of corn from an acre with the same, or less labor than it cost you to raise thirty ; and if I can obtain a breed of hogs which are not more than half legs, ears and snout ; and which will not, like Pharoah's lean kine, cost more than their value, I shall not consider that I disgrace my worthy ancestors by so doing.

F. Ah John, when you are of age you will of course act for yourself, and I hope, by that time you will have more sense than to believe your sixty bushel stories, and hogs fatted upon moonshine. I have as good corn on the old family corn lot as any of my neighbors, and I think thirty bushels a pretty good crop. For my part, I dont think best to believe half the lies people tell.

S. I have no wish, father, to believe lies ; but I think I could give you most satisfactory proof that more than a hundred bushels of corn have been raised from an acre, in a great number of instances —

F. Why John — I would not believe so foolish a story, if I told it myself. But I see I have sent you to school to make a fool of you. I hope, however, you will outgrow it when you get more discretion.

S. I hope sir, I shall improve in discretion, but I am very sure discretion will never influence me against being a book farmer.

F. A book farmer ! — why my son, I am tired of such folly — have not I always been considered a good respectable farmer ? Are not my crops always planted in season and tended and gathered in good order ? What better can you do in farming, than to follow my example.

S. Your example, father, as far as industry and attention to business go, are perfectly satisfactory, and I shall be proud to follow it. But you will excuse me when I tell you that book farming teaches me some improvements in the system of managing which I think are too important to be neglected. It teaches me that plants require food as well as animals ; and that the ground which supplies that requires to be replenished from time to time with the means — it teaches me that if the manure which has been accumulating by the side of your barn ever since my remembrance, and is now rotting the covering, were spread upon your corn field, it would, at least, double your crop ; that by changing crops the value of your land would be doubled. I have learned, by books, as well as by my own observation, that as great improvements may be made in the breeds of animals as in the choice and cultivation of vegetables, especially in the breed of hogs.

F. Why, in the name of common sense, what improvement would you have in the breed of hogs ? My hogs last fall weighed from three to four hundred — do you want anything better than that ?

S. Why, sir, the corn which fatted each of your hogs, to that weight, would have been abundantly sufficient for three of the Berkshire breed, of the same weights, and that which feeds your store hogs, with bodies as lank as greyhounds, and having legs as if you were breeding them for racing and leaping fences, would double the number of any of the improved breeds with short legs and ears, so fat that their bellies would drag upon the ground.

By the way, father, let me show you a sketch I made at Hoosic falls the other day — a fat hog, of the Berkshire breed, was turning to get an ear of corn which lay between it and the fence, when a real racer of your favorite breed, which was six or seven yards off, seeing the corn, and urged no doubt by his ever craving appetite, making what a Scotchman would call a *hop, step and leap*, jumped clean over him, and got the corn. — *The Cultivator.*

An Irish priest, on proceeding to the church one Sunday morning, through the burial ground, observed several sprightly girls seated on a tombstone, and wishing to be jocular with them, asked what they were doing there ? "Nothing at all, plaze your rivirence," was the reply of one of them. "Nothing !" said he. "What is nothing ?" "Shut your eyes, your rivirence," retorted the girl, "and you'll see it."—*London paper.*

A man of enlarged ideas.—"Mister, where is your house ?" asked a curious traveller of a half horse and half alligator, squatter. "House, eh ! do you think I'm one of them sort ? stranger ! I sleep in the Government purchase ; I eats raw bear and buffalo, and drinks out of the Mississippi !"

The United States Gazette contains the following queer advertisement :—"A legitimate gentleman wishing to retire, would be willing to become the son of a person having no male offspring."

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